

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in response to the final office action dated June 8, 2009, wherein (a) claims 1-52 were pending; (b) claim 48 was objected to; (c) claims 1-16, 19, 20, 23-25, 27-30, 33, 34, 36-39, 41, 42, 46, 49-51 were rejected as obvious over Wipf (US 6,591,963) in view of one or more of the following references: EPO '820 (EP 1295820), Pickel et al. (US 6,354,427), Santais et al. (US 5,863,571), Clopton (US 5,076,422), Leemkuil (US 5,191,959), Zurcher (US 2002/0053499), Steeber et al. (US 6,230,874), Barth et al. (US 6,394,260), and Fellner et al. (US 4,513,858); and (d) claims 17, 18, 21, 22, 31, 32, 35, 40, 44, 47, 48, and 52 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten into independent form.

By way of the foregoing, claims 1, 11, 15, 18-21, 23, 27, 28, 32, 35, 41, 47, 48, and 52 are currently amended; claims 10, 14, 16, 17, 30, 31, 43, and 44 are canceled, and claim 53 is new. Claim 1 is amended to include each and every limitation of claims 10, 14, 16, and 17, thereby effectively rewriting allowable claim 17 into independent form. Claim 21 is rewritten into independent form including each and every limitation of base claim 1, and intervening claims 10 and 14. Claim 28 is amended to include each and every limitation of claims 30 and 31, thereby effectively rewriting allowable claim 31 into independent form. Claim 35 is rewritten into independent form including each and every limitation of base claim 28. Claim 41 is amended to include each and every limitation of claims 43 and 44, thereby effectively rewriting allowable claim 44 into independent form. Claim 47 is rewritten into independent form including each and every limitation of base claim 41. Claim 48 is rewritten into independent form including each and every limitation of base claim 41, and intervening claim 43. The remaining claims are amended to correct dependencies to be consistent with their respective base claims and/or to overcome one or more objections identified below. Support for new claim 53 can be found in the previously pending version of claim 48.

No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-9, 11-13, 15, 18-29, 32-42, and 45-53 are pending.

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 48 is amended to cancel reference to the “double lever” objected to by the examiner as lacking antecedent basis. New claim 53 is directed to the “double lever” feature, which finds antecedent basis in claim 47.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the claim objection is therefore respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

As set forth above, each of claims 17, 21, 31, 35, 44, 47, and 48 has been effectively rewritten into independent form. Because claims 17, 21, 31, 35, 44, 47, and 48 were indicated as allowable in the outstanding office action, applicants submit that all of the pending claims are allowable.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding obviousness rejections is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that all outstanding objections, rejections, and/or other concerns have been either accommodated, traversed, or rendered moot. Therefore, the application should be in condition for allowance. If there is any outstanding issue that the examiner believes may be remedied via telephone conference, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (312) 474-6300.

Dated: September 8, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Michael P. Furmanek

Registration No.: 58,495

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN

233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300

Sears Tower

Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357

(312) 474-6300

Attorney for Applicant